



Our Home, our Country, and our Brother Man.

GET UP YOUR PLASTER.

Among the several articles, of a mineral origin, that have been used by farmers as a fertilizer, Plaster of Paris, has stood the test of actual experiment longer, and given more satisfactory results of my experiments. They purchase of the agents of the Peruvian government, and it is inspected by the State Inspector of guano for Maryland, and therefore is pure. If it is first bought by certain dealers it is adulterated, and then put into the market.

If the farmers who buy, in this State, would employ some man to purchase what they wish, they would get pure. My plan would be for each one to order, advance money, and let their agent buy of the Peruvian government's agent and ship to some port here for distribution. The guano would not cost any more than it now does.

The sample that I brought with me, to compare with that I bought here, showed as much difference as between ashes and clay. S. P. M.

Cape Elizabeth, Dec. 22, 1856.

For the Maine Farmer.

ROOTS FOR SHEEP—QUERY.

MR. EDITOR:—Being a young farmer, and about commencing the raising of sheep, and finding various opinions in regard to them, I take the liberty to ask through the columns of your paper, being a subscriber myself,—First, are Ruta bags turning good for them? and if so, what amount per day is beneficial to them? Second, are turnips weakening, and are the sheep liable to lose their lambs if fed on them? Thirdly, what amount of turnips should be given if the sheep are fed on rough fodder at the same time?

Will you or some of your subscribers give your experience in this matter, and oblige

Augusta, December 25, 1856. G. M. S.

NOTE. There are many wool growers in Maine who can answer the above queries from long experience. Will our friend Moses Taber give us his views once more in this matter. "Line upon line," you know, was the old injunction, and it holds good yet.

[Ed.]

For the Maine Farmer.

CARROTS FOR PATTENING SWINE.

FRIEND HOLMES:—As everything connected with farming finds a place in your paper, I thought it would just you tell of my experiment with carrots in fattening swine. I commenced fattening this season with corn, had a small hog that had been wintered, fed her on corn about six weeks, then having about fifty bushels of carrots, I commenced boiling and feeding them, adding half a peck of corn meal to the bushel, and I think I never saw a hog do better. I thought that she fatted better than when fed exclusively on corn. I slaughtered her last Monday and have four hundred pounds of excellent pork; so by the loss of my potato crop, I have found a substitute, one that in my opinion will pay better. Probably some of your correspondents may have tried the same thing, if so, I should like to hear the result.

A SUBSCRIBER.

Thordike, Dec. 20, 1856.

ESSEX SWINE.

We are happy to learn that Wm. S. Grant, of Farmingdale, has purchased and placed upon his farm three sows and a boar of the Essex breed. This breed are of the best form, good feeders, quickly fattened, and grow to good size. The only objection we have heard against them is their color, which is black. This color, we are told, is only in the scarf skin, and comes entirely off when scalded in dressing them. Their skin, which, like the Suffolk, is nearly bare, does not shrink when exposed to the sun as does that of the Suffolk.

FILMS ON THE EYES OF CATTLE.

It is often the case, owing to injuries, or sometimes to a diseased constitutional system, a film or thickening of the outer coat of the eyes of cattle, horses, sheep, &c., take place. Many remedies are used, some of which make the matter worse. We are informed by Chas. A. Abbott, Esq., of Bangor, that he has always succeeded in removing such obstructions to the sight of the eye by simply pouring on to it common molasses. He says he has applied it to oxen, cows, horses and sheep, and in one instance to the latter when the film had been on the eye continually for two years. Two applications effectually removed it.

The way to apply it, he says, is to open the eye and pour in a teaspoonful of molasses. It is somewhat painful to the animal, but effectual. It may be repeated in invertebrate cases. This is a cheap and simple remedy, and should be generally known among farmers.

BOARD OF AGRICULTURE. The Board of Agriculture consists of sixteen, including the Governor and Secretary of State, who are members ex-officio. We have received official notice of the election of only the following:

Kennebec Society, Horace Parlin;

Cumberland, E. G. Buxton;

Oxford, Darius Forbes;

Washington, Nathan Pettingill.

They are to meet at the State House on the 3d Wednesday of the present month.

GOOD ADVICE. J. Jay Smith, in his Horticulturalist, advises the young to cultivate those pursuits which will be no encumbrance under the pressure of business, or of adverse circumstances, but which will constitute the highest ornament of their prosperous days, and the most delightful companions of their leisure. Among such pursuits he would undoubtedly place Agriculture and Horticulture as the first, as a resource in age and prosperity, no less than in adversity; when such knowledge may be turned to profitable account, they have no rivals.

LOOK TO YOUR GRAFTS. Our friend, Dr. N. T. True, among other good remarks on sundry topics in the Oxford Democrat, says that you should watch the junction of the graft, and the stock should be closely watched and kept covered; if not, the sap is apt to leak out, blacken, and the graft die.

UNITED STATES AG. SOCIETY.

The Fifth Annual Meeting of the United States Agricultural Society, will be held at the Rooms of the SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION, in the City of WASHINGTON, D. C., JANUARY 14th, 1857, at ten o'clock A. M.

Business of importance will come before the Meeting. The Report of the Exhibition at Philadelphia, and the Journal of the Society for 1856 will be distributed to the Members present. At the same time, Awards of Premiums on Field Crops will be made; Officers of the Society for the ensuing year elected, and the propositions which have been received in relation to the Fifth Annual Exhibition acted upon.

A Lecture will be delivered on the application of Science to Agriculture, by Professor HENRY, of the Smithsonian Institution. Another Lecture on the Grasses of the United States, will be given by CHARLES L. FLINT, Esq., Secretary of the Massachusetts State Board of Agriculture.

Other Lectures and interesting discussions are expected on subjects pertaining to the object of the Association.

The various Agricultural Society of the United States are requested to send delegates to the Meeting, and all gentlemen who are interested in the welfare of American agriculture, who would promote a more cordial spirit of intercourse between the farmers in different portions of our land, are invited to be present.

MARSHALL P. WILDER, President.

W. M. S. King, Secretary.

December, 20, 1856.

For the Maine Farmer.

PROTECTION OF CELLIARS FROM FROST.

MESSES. EDITORS:—In this climate nearly all cellars need some protection from frost, beyond the ordinary powers of walls, doors and windows. Cellars situated in dry soils, covered with tight floors, and surrounded with walls built double at least from one foot below the soil to the sill, windows also being double, are usually safe. Those without these advantages of double walls and windows, need to be thoroughly banked. For that purpose no material is so effectual as fresh stable manure. It is dry, and by its slight tendency to ferment, even in winter, it resists frost. But it is not cleanly nor sweet; nor can it always be obtained at the season of need. In its absence dry leaves, such as fall in September and October from the shade trees which should be found around every well arranged homestead, form the best substitute. They need to be piled against the house and also covered with boards. It often happens, however, that cellars that seem well cared for externally do yet freeze. In such cases the floors above and the passages leading to such cellars, will almost always be found in fault. Warm air always rises, though heated ever so little, about which surrounds it. Let an outside door be opened when the external air is ever so little cooler than that within the house. Now stand in the door way with a lighted candle. If held at the top of the door the flame will be outward, showing that a current of warm air is then passing out of the room. If held at the bottom the flame will be inward, showing that a current of cold air is then rushing in. But if held in the centre it will burn calmly, because equally removed from both currents.

Now apply these principles to your cellar. Every chink in your floors communicating with cold, unoccupied rooms, and every crevice in your walls along the sills, connecting with the outer door atmosphere, will become an outlet of warm air, while openings in a lower position will admit cold air.

Should your cellar be unusually tight, except those openings near the top, the same hole will exhibit a double current, i. e., one of warm air leaving, and one of cold air entering the cellar, just as the nozzle of a full jug of water shows counter currents, air and water passing through it at the same moment.

Cellars whose walls, windows, and floors are in proper condition do yet often freeze in the latter part of the winter. The agency in this case is almost always a badly contrived cellar way. These passages into our cellars where indoors, are usually located under the chamber stairs. The current of warm air from the cellar finds an upward passage on the principles already stated, up through this passage. The chamber stairs above are often not tight, and they open moreover, into some cold, windy entry in the chamber. Thus there is a passage all the way from your cellar to your garret, through which the warm air is constantly leaving your cellar.

The cheap and effectual remedy for this, very often, great evil, is the construction of a trap-door in your cellar way. It may be readily made thus: Put a casing on each side of your cellar way; place this casing just so much lower than the floor of the house, that when the trap-door is laid in, its upper surface will be even with the floor; attach a string or hook to the end of the trap-door over the upper step of the stairs, and hook this string or hook to some staple driven into the chamber stairs immediately above. I prefer, however, to fasten a strong cord to the door, and have it play over a pulley attached to the chamber stairs. The door should be as tight as possible. My own is constructed of two parallel strips of boards for the outside, six feet long, (which is the length of the cellar way.) Across these, at the ends and in the middle, are nailed three narrow strips of thin board, three feet long, (which is the width of the cellar way.) Over the whole is nailed two thicknesses of old discarded carpet. As you raise the upper end of your door and fasten it above to the chamber stairs, the lower end rests upon the casing already prepared to receive it. This door being shut down, you have a continuous tight floor over the whole cellar, which confines the warm, calm atmosphere. Such doors should not be shut down, nor should the windows be closed too early. A vegetable cellar on the first of December, should never be warmer than from 45° to 50°, if you wish your vegetables and fruit to keep from freezing. If you have a large cellar and a great variety of winter stores laid up in it, it would be wise to have it divided, selecting the coolest part for your cabbages, turnips, apples, &c.

The objection often made to closing a cellar entirely is that thus you have no means of ventilating bad air. But how comes bad air in a cellar, especially in that part where potatoes, turnips, &c., are stored? The odor of the turpentine passes off quickly.

CLEANING STOVES. Stove lustre, when mixed with turpentine and applied in the usual manner, is blacker, more glossy and durable than if put on with any other liquid. The turpentine prevents rust, and when put on an old rusty stove will make it look as well as new. The odor of the turpentine passes off quickly.

GRAIN IN GREAT BRITAIN. The imports of grain into Great Britain, for the calendar year of 1853, was equivalent to 85,619,532 bushels of wheat; in 1854 it was 63,267,240 bushels, and in 1855, 50,227,608 bushels. The estimate for the next year is that 40,000,000 bushels will be wanted, of which Russia, it is supposed, will supply 10,000,000 bushels, Prussia 10,000,000, and other European countries 5,000,000, leaving 15,000,000 bushels to be furnished by the United States.

keep a barrel of old beef brine there? I have you heaps of rotten apples, and potatoes, and cabbage leaves there? Or is the surface of the soil saturated with spilt milk, &c.? If so, you richly deserve to suffer all the consequences of foul air and pest. Mend your ways,—mend your ways, neighbor, and you yourself will be the first to reap the benefits.

C. E. GOODRICH.

Utica, Dec. 10th, 1856.

[Country Gentleman.]

THE GUANO TRADE.

The New York Evening Post furnishes some interesting facts respecting the guano deposits belonging to Peru, and the manner in which the business of removing and disposing of this important fertilizer is conducted. The guano islands (the Chincha) are about one hundred miles north from Callao, the longest of the group being two miles in length by half a mile in width; there is but little guano on the largest island, while upon the smallest it is two hundred and fifty feet deep. There are often from three to five hundred sail of vessels, generally of large size, loading at one time. At the rate which guano is now shipped from these islands, it will be exhausted in six to eight years. Twenty thousand tons are sometimes removed in a single day. There is one on the islands a settlement of Chinese Coolies, who are employed in digging the guano and loading the vessels. A task is given them each day, and if the gang fail to get out the given number of wagon loads, of two tons each, a day, their bondage is continued a longer period, to make up; so many months or days being added as wagon loads are wanting.

These coolies are cheated into the belief by Mandarins, or knowing Chinamen, that they are to be shipped from China to California and the gold diggings, and are further deceived by the offer of a free passage. The shipmaster takes them to the Peruvian government and sells them for a round sum in the shape of freight money, and they are sent to the guano islands for life or for a term of five to seven years. The Peruvians also send all their prisoners of State, some two or three hundred, into the guano mines, where they are let out to work by day and confined by night.

The guano is hard and can only be broken with the pickaxe. It is then broken and shoveled into the wagons and rolled through the "shutters" of the vessels. There is no fresh water upon the islands, and each vessel is required to carry a tun of water there for every hundred tons burden of the ship. The oldest captain in the fleet from each nation is appointed Commodore, and hoists his flag as such on his ship, where all disputes are settled. Indeed the municipal law of the islands and the fleet are decidedly of Yankee origin. Says the Post:—

"The islands are about ten miles from the mainland and are composed of red sand stone. The guano is not all bird dung, but is largely composed of the mud of the ocean; that brought from Peru, is so, at least. When anchors are hoisted into the ship from the holding ground of vessels along the Peruvian coast, large quantities of mud, of a greenish white color are brought up, and this mud when dried makes guano equally good with the guano taken from the islands. The birds and seals come upon the islands when the people are not at work, but it does not appear that their dung or decayed bodies are more than a foot deep on any of the islands. The composition taken from the islands, called guano, is stratified, and lies in the same form it did before it was lifted up from the bottom of the ocean.

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THE MAINE FARMER: AN AGRICULTURAL AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER.



AUGUSTA.
THURSDAY MORNING, JANUARY 6, 1857.

WOOLLEN MANUFACTORIES AND THE NEW TARIFF.

In another column our readers will find an article respecting this subject, communicated by friend John D. Lang to the Age, from which we copy it. Friend Lang has great experience in the manufacturing of woolen fabrics, and his remarks are valuable to all who feel an interest in this subject.

It will be no news to any one to say that there is a severe pressure upon the business community.

Our woolen manufacturers have had a hard struggle, and nearly all of them have found it necessary to shut down the gate, and dismiss their operatives. Some, hoping that there would be a turn in the times, and they should be able to make their business profitable, rather than a losing operation, have continued a little too long, and have been compelled to close by an assignment of property, for the benefit of their creditors.

This is disastrous to the owners, disastrous to the operatives, and disastrous to the community.

Manufactories, well regulated and prudently conducted, are of great advantage to the community in which they are placed and by consequence any condition of things which curtails, or stops their prosperity or operation, is a calamity to that community.

To illustrate this, let us state what a gentleman, conversing with the operations of the No. Vassalboro' Co., where are made the finest and best Cassimere in the United States, has assured us are facts.

In 1856 they paid out for wool \$150,000. They

paid their operatives for labor \$33,000. Of this \$33,000, thus paid to operatives, the farmers gets at least \$24,000 for produce, and other articles necessary for them to live upon.

It is calculated that 70 per cent. of the cost of

manufacturing (aside from the wool) is lost.

These statements show the nature of such manufac-

turing establishments, to the community in which they are placed.

Why, it may be asked, cannot our woolen manufacturers continue their operations profitably? There are several reasons why they cannot.

We have to compete with the manufacturers of the whole world. Well, this we could do and make a profit, could we be placed in the same condition with them, especially in the following

particulars, viz.—Cheap labor, cheap capital, cheap raw material.

1. As it regards cheap labor, we would not if

we could bring about such a social and political

system of society among us, as should cause all

to be as cheap as in Europe. So we will not

attempt, although it militates against us. We can

obviate this by cheaper water power, cheaper

rent, and better machinery than they have.

2. As to cheap capital we cannot so easily get

over it. Money, in England for instance, can

ordinarily be had in any amount on good security,

for from three to four per cent. per annum.

In this country it is always 6 per cent., and

when there is any pressure apparent, from 10 to

12 per cent., or more, is demanded and obtained.

This acts as a great obstacle, and indeed is a

serious one in our competition with Europe in

this respect; and it is one not easily and we fear

not likely to be soon remedied. It has been at-

tempted, by our government putting a high duty

on foreign manufacturers—a duty sufficiently high

to balance the deficiency of cost in their produc-

tion, and thus bring them in our market at about

the same cost as our own. This has been called

a protective tariff, and if the principle that a

government is bound to encourage and foster its

people in their several pursuits is right, it is right

to have such a tariff. If it is wrong to do this,

then it is wrong to do it, although it militates against us.

Each side has its advocates, and we will not

stop now to discuss abstract principles. Suffice it

to say that our tariffs have varied to one side or

the other, according as the several advocates have

found themselves in political power in Congress.

At present the tariff on manufactured woolens

is too low to afford any protection against foreign

competition; if it were not, our woolen factories

would now all be in active operation, instead of

being closed and deserted.

The question arises, what shall be done? And

to this question Congress has been moved by

various applications. It has been found that if

the tariff be increased on many articles, the

revenue will be increased. It is now already too

much—more than sufficient for an economical ad-

ministration of government, and hence the ex-

travagance which we all complain of.

The committee on ways and means have report-

ed a very good bill for remodeling the tariff. It

takes of the duties on many articles, and modi-

fies them on many more, while, at the same

time, it has an eye to the best welfare of the

government, allowing it enough, and also to the

industrial portions of the country, not entirely

stripping them of all signs of protection and en-

couragement.

As it regards the article of wool, it proposes to

take the duty entirely from the corner yard, and

from the very finest, leaving it as it is now, upon

those of medium quality. We think well of

this. The great bulk of wool grown in the Uni-

ited States, is of the medium kind. If this bill

should pass with a reasonable assurance that it

would not be too soon changed, so as not to bring

ruinous fluctuation in the business, we think it

would help the present troubles in our manufac-

turing circles, by making a portion of the ga-

vement much cheaper.

TRIAL OF S. W. TUCKERMAN. The trial of S.

W. Tuckerman for embezzlement of money from

the Eastern Railroad Company, was con-

cluded on Saturday last, the eighth day of its con-

tinuance. The case was given to the jury, who

after a deliberation of six hours and forty minutes,

brought in a verdict of "Guilty" of the embezzlement

of bank bills to the amount of two thou-

sand dollars, as set forth in the indictment, and

"not guilty" in regard to the residue of the sum of

five thousand dollars, taken from the Merchants' Bank.

Verdict was deferred until next session of the

Court, and the defendant's bail was continued.

Objections to the ruling of the Court were filed

by the counsel for the defense, and will go to

the full bench for bearing. There are numerous

other indictments against Tuckerman.

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS. Our traveling agent,

M. S. N. TATE, is now visiting the towns in

Oxford county. He is duly authorized to collect

monies and receive subscriptions for the Maine

Farmer.

POST OFFICE DISCONTINUED. The Post Office

at West Sidney has been discontinued. All mat-

ters for that office are stopped and delivered at the

Augusta office.

KENNEBEC COUNTY BIBLE SOCIETY AGENT. Rev.

R. C. BAILEY is the authorized agent for the Ken-

nebec County Bible Society, and is now visiting

the different towns in the county for the sale and

distribution of the Bible.

THE MAINE FARMER: AN AGRICULTURAL AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER.

DEATH OF FATHER MATTHEW.

In the foreign news, published last week, was briefly announced the death of that most excellent and true christian, Rev. Theobald Matthew, of Ireland. His name was spread to every part of the world, and millions have learned to revere the very name of "Father Matthew." He died at Cork, on the 9th ult. The Boston Journal gives the following brief account of his life and labors.

The Arctic discovery ship Resolute, recovered by an American whaling ship, and presented to the British nation by the United States Congress, arrived at Spithead on the 12th inst., under the command of Capt. Harriet of the U. S. Navy. She was under American colors; and on board go the names of British officers. Her crew ran up the colors of the American, and on the following day, exchange salutes being fired, the Resolute changed her colors to British.

The morning of the 13th, Capt. Hartson landed at Portsmouth and paid official visits to Chevalier Pappalardo, the U. S. Vice Consul, and the military and civil authorities. An invitation to a public banquet, by the corporation and inhabitants of Portsmouth, has been accepted by Captains and officers, but the day is not yet come. The new method of robbery has been introduced into New York, it having been successfully practised upon a printer, one night last week. Garroting consists in seizing a man by the throat and choking him so that he can give no alarm, while a confederate rips his pockets. He is left strangled and almost senseless, and before he can get breath, the robbers are beyond reach. This trick has been all the rage among the more daring thieves of London for a year or two past.

The English Expedition to Persia. The British Government has engaged at Bombay, for service in the Persian Gulf, twenty-four sailing vessels, averaging 700 tons each, at 176,034 rupes per month. Besides these ships and the East India Company's steamers, the British Government has engaged the Bombay Steam Navigation Co.'s three steamers, at 10,000 rupes each per month; also two of the Peninsular and Oriental Co.'s vessels, on terms not made public.

EMIGRANT STATISTICS. The number of emigrants arrived at New York the past year exceeds considerably that of 1855. The whole number was 141,195, of whom 44,000 were from Ireland, 55,855 from Germany, and 23,691 from England.

Family Poisoned by a Negro. Cincinnati, Jan. 2. A special despatch to the Commercial says that a family of eight persons named Smith living in Hardin County, Kentucky, had been poisoned by their negro cook. Six had died, and the others were in a critical condition.

Lewis Baker at Liberty. Lewis Baker, the hero of Stanwix Hall tragedy, has been admitted to bail in \$5000. His co-defendants in the case, James Turner and McLaughlin, are still in confinement.

Condition of the New York Banks. New York, Dec. 29. The footings of the weekly bank statement are—Loans, \$108,327,000; circulation, \$8,387,000; specie, \$10,392,000; deposits, \$87,392,000—showing an increase of \$192,800 in loans, and a decrease of 758,000 in specie, \$10,000 in circulation, and \$1,616,000 in deposits.

Sent Home. The Kaw Indians from Kansas, to whom allusion was made several days ago, had, it now appears, no special business with the Government. The visit was for the purpose of seeing their "great father," and they might have added, to the pleasure of some presents. The Commissioner of Indian Affairs has furnished them with clothing better suited to the season than their fanciful forest costume, and started them on their way home at the public expense.

NAVAL. Workmen are engaged in the labor of raising the receiving ship Union, which recently sank near the Philadelphia Navy Yard. Her name is John Franklin and his comrade, Edward Crowley, bore him immediately to the hospital, and he was soon removed to the hospital, where he died.

ARTIFICER OF DEACUTER. Acting Deputy Warden Charles W. Walker, brother of the murderer of Mr. Deacuter, seized a pistol from his pocket, and shot him in the head.

Editor of the New York Bank. The editor of the New York Bank, who was arrested by the police, was released on bail.

Mr. Deacuter, who was arrested on a charge of

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THE MAINE

LATEST NEWS FROM EUROPE.



ARRIVAL OF THE FULTON.

The steamship Fulton arrived at New York about noon of the 31st ult., bringing dates from Europe to the 18th, five days later. The following is a summary of her news:

THIRTY-FOURTH CONGRESS. SECOND SESSION.

TUESDAY, Dec. 30.

SENATE. On motion of Mr. Welles, a resolution was adopted, calling on the French government to make a full and complete acknowledgment of all wrongs which have been made, and of all claims disallowed Gen. Scott, from the date he joined the army in Mexico to Dec. 1, 1856, together with any correspondence on the subject.

The Senate adopted a motion of inquiry into the expedient of settling the boundary of Utah. Adjourned till Friday.

HOUSE. The Diplomatic and Consular appropriation bill was considered and passed. Adjourned till Friday.

FRIEY, Jan. 2.

SENATE. In the Senate to-day, Mr. Silliman called for a bill to prohibit the sale of land to aliens in the lands, relative to the rights of the Dutch Consul to settle in the Herkster case. Adjourned to Monday.

HOUSE. The House was occupied exclusively with the consideration of private bills, and passed thirteen of them. Adjourned to Monday.

REPORTS OF DEPARTMENTS.

Report of the Commissioner of Pensions.

The following is a synopsis of the annual report of the Commissioner of Pensions:

ARMY PENNS.

The number of original applications, and applications for increase of pensions, admitted during the year ending June 30, 1856, are as follows:

71 revolutionary soldiers, yearly amount, \$4,908 63

46 widows and orphans, half-pay pension, yearly amount, 533 55

335 widows and orphans, half-pay pension, yearly amount, 1,167 00

20,926 00

12,637 00

1,130 cases admitted. Total yearly amount, 74,019 63

The arrears due on the above amounts at the date of issuing the pension certificates, amounted—

To revolutionary soldiers and widows, \$164,287 00

To all others, 40,548 26

Total, 204,835 26

During the past year, there has been paid by pension agents to the several States and Territories—

To revolutionary soldiers, \$81,274 22

To widows and orphans, half-pay pensions, 509,454 50

21,229 11

31,178 00

Total, \$1,233,136 61

The number of pensions on the roll on the 30th June, 1856, were—

514 revolutionary soldiers, yearly amount, \$1,954 50

4,167 widows of soldiers, yearly amount, 215,453 00

20,000 orphans, half-pay, yearly amount, 443,152 50

15,074 pensions. Total yearly amount, \$1,071,609 87

There have been 990 pensioners, added to the rolls, and 1,500 stricken off by death. Of the latter number, 212 were revolutionary soldiers. Many of this class of pensioners yet living are reported to be from 98 to 106 years old.

NAVY PENNS.

There have been 17 original applications, and applications for increase admitted, the annual amount of which is \$5325, and the arrears due at the date of issuing the pension certificates amounted to \$3,474 64.

Applications of the several cases on the rolls, on the 30th June, 1856, admitted, were—

335 invalid, yearly amount, \$22,515 85

458 widows and orphans, yearly amount, 9,670 00

15,000 privates, yearly amount, 1,384 00

534 pensioners. Total yearly amount, \$123,569 85

534 pensioners. Total yearly amount, 22,515 85

458 widows and orphans, yearly amount, 9,670 00

15,000 privates, yearly amount, 1,384 00

534 pensioners. Total yearly amount, \$123,569 85

534 pensioners. Total yearly amount, \$123,569

THE MAINE FARMER: AN AGRICULTURAL AND FAMILY

NEW YEAR'S ADDRESS.

NEW YEAR'S DREAM

OF THE
MAINE FARMER CARRIER.

JANUARY 1, 1857.

The day had pa'd, and over all
Darkness had spread its sable pall—
My "cheers" all done—my supper eat,
I placed on my usual seat.

As by the fire I was sitting,
Thinking of this and then of that,
I had a dream—which did not seem
To be exactly all a dream;

For, mingled up with the ideal,
Was very much of what was real.
I saw before my sleeping eyes
Many familiar forms arise,

And ranging 'round a spacious hall
I saw my patrons one and all;

Each in his hand a "Farmer" bore
Which I had carried him before,

And thus with food for mind being fed,

They gathered wisdom as they read—

While thus intent—voices were heard
Of mingled sounds—of twittering bird,

Of bleating flocks—and jocund song
Rose up from a r'ly jolly throng,

Shouting with voices strong and clear—

We wish you all a happy year—

A happy year, all free from strife,

Replete with merriment, life,

Full store of health, and hearts that thrill

Responsive to God's sovereign will.

Let love and peace be joined as one,

And hasten the Millennium on.

We paused—and straight a brilliant light

Came flashing o'er our dazed sight,

And in our presence soon appeared,

Each in appropriate garb arrayed,

The sister Seasons, hand in hand,

Accompanied with a mirthful band

Of blithesome sprites—brimful of glee,

Of gladsome song and mirthsplay,

Humming the praise each season claims,

In justly emblematic strains,

Describing what to each belongs,

And thus expressive ran their songs—

WINTER.

First—uprising in his place
Old Winter reared his icy hand;

In either eye was a frozen tear,

Icecles hung from every ear,

Hoar frost had powdered o'er his beard;

A cow'f of snow was on his head;

Around his form an icy cloud

Enveloped him as within a shroud;

And yet, a strong and jolly crew

Attendant, all his biddings do.

He called a merry skater forth

To trill a ditty of the North.

THE Skater's Song.

When aske the sunbeams gleam,

And the Frost King bids the stream,

And his cold and chilling hand

Scatters winter o'er the land,

Then comes the Skater's holiday,

Blithe with song and roundelay.

"Merrily, merrily, merrily O,"

Bounding o'er the ice we go.

III.

Gilding, swiftly as the wind,

Leaving even behind,

Lads and lasses, young and old,

Heeding not the winter's cold,

Gleefully we skin along,

Happy—shouting—joyful throng.

"Merrily, merrily, merrily O,"

Bounding o'er the ice we go.

SPRING.

Next comes Spring with smiling face,

Fresh buds and flowers adorn her dress,

And teeming nature seemed to lie,

Bathed in the sunlight of her eye.

Around her form she careless drew,

A robe made up of glittering dew,

A ploughman from her willing train,

She bade to sing the following strain:

THE Ploughman's Song.

L.

Stern winter's grasp has given way,

The golden sun, with genial ray,

Warms up the earth—wakes up the flowers,

And decks with leaves the twining bower.

The pattering rains and rising floods,

The piping frogs and singing birds,

The skipping lambs and lowing herds,

All bid the Ploughman yoke his team,

And "mark the earth with many a seam,"

O'er fertile field and gentle slope,

To plough in faith and sow in hope.

SUMMER.

And when, with watchful care and toil,

The seed he sowed in the soil,

He feels God's promise will prevail,

"Seed time and harvest ne'er shall fail;"

Thus, trusting God, he scatters free,

That which will soon a harvest be,

With nodding plume and quivering leaf,

And gaily fruit and golden sheaf,

On the fertile field and gentle slope,

He ploughed in faith and sowed in hope.

The Reaper's Song.

L.

To the Summer fields are ripening

"Neath the brightly shining sun,

And the softy softs are waving

Gently o'er the yellow corn.

IV.

First the pale, weak and tender,

Kindly washed by Summer's tear,

This, in time, the ear did render,

Then, the full corn in the ear.

III.

Then the sun and shade and shower,

Fausing breeze and cooling dews,

As all one combined their power,

Ripening all for man's use.

IV.

Now the Reapers, strong and active,

Bending 'neath the fervid sun,

Ply their sickles in good earnest,

And the harvest soon is done.

V.

Bind the sheaves, and to the garner

Bring the golden harvest in,

Nor forbid the humble gleaner,

What his industry may win.

AUTUMN.

With frosted locks and sober men,

"Lo! 'tis October" now is seen

Approaching, thoughtfully and sad,

Bearing her well-poised head

Garlands and festoons of the vine.

'Mong which the Autumn flowers entwine,
And deck'd with fruits of every hue—
Enchanting both to look, and view.

The tolling swains around her come,
And thus they sing the Harvest Home:

The Harvesters' Song.

All hail, and all hail
To the evening of the year,
When the fruits begin to fall,
And the leaves are brown and scar.

When the sun is gently smiling,
In the soft autumnal sky,
And the songsters of the grove
To the southern regions fly.

When the harvest, rich bounty,

Pours forth its golden store,

And till it can hold no more.

Choice blessings of Jehovah,

To all are freely given,

To call us to our Father,

And lead us up to heaven.

Then praise the bounteous giver,

Whence all these blessings come,

And thank the Great Jehovah,

For the glorious Harvest Home.

Their songs were hushed, and in dream

Methought I saw a brightening beam

Of light dash forth, from every eye,

Like brilliant star in yonder sky.

And gathering round, with hearty cheer,

Thus proffered aid through the year—

Carrier Boy! Carrier Boy! List to our lay,

Well hast thou labored by night and by day,

To give every patron their bounties,

With news, both from home and distant climes.

We crown you to-night, with a nice beaver hat,

And garments of broadcloth; what you think of that?

Here's socks for your feet, and boots to wear o'er them.

It is a gift we send you,

With a smile, and a hearty cheer.

It is a gift we send you,

With a smile, and a hearty cheer.

It is a gift we send you,

With a smile, and a hearty cheer.

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